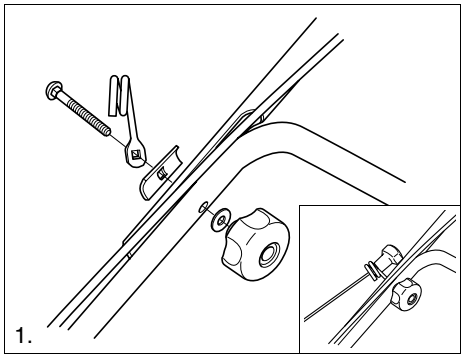
Mountfield

Mountfield
550 SP TRI-CUT
Owner's Manual

Call our Helpline if you have any problems:
Helpline Number
08457 023674
Open from 9:00am to 4:00pm daily

8211-0402-03

NOTES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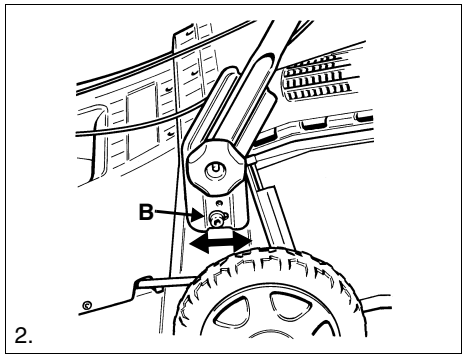

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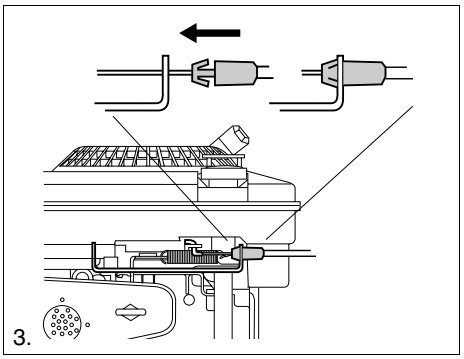
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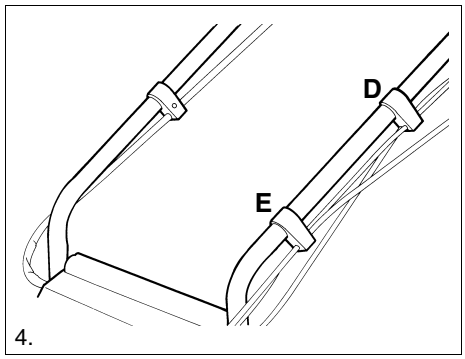

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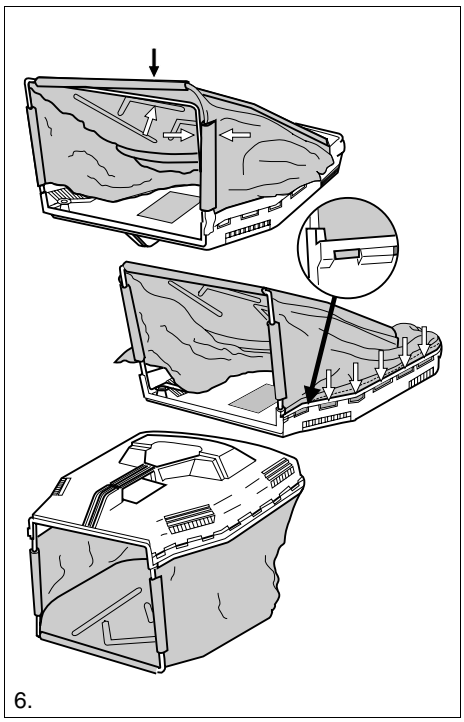
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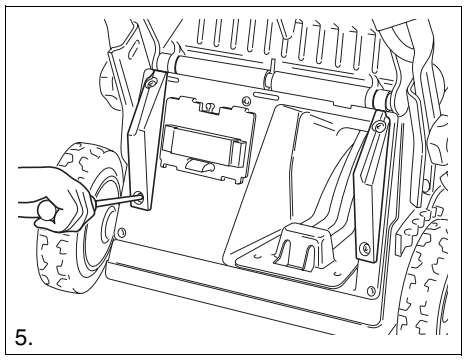
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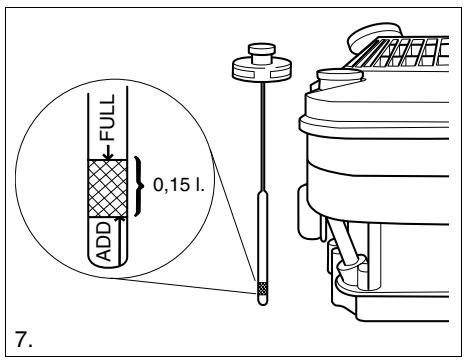

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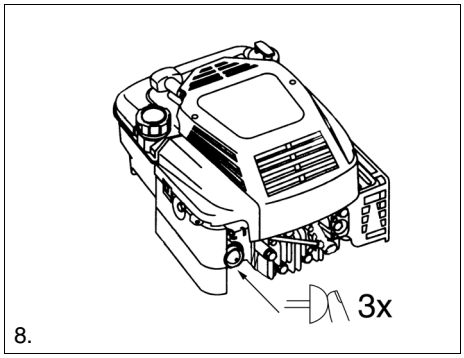

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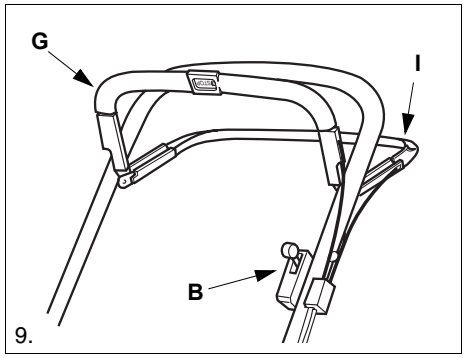

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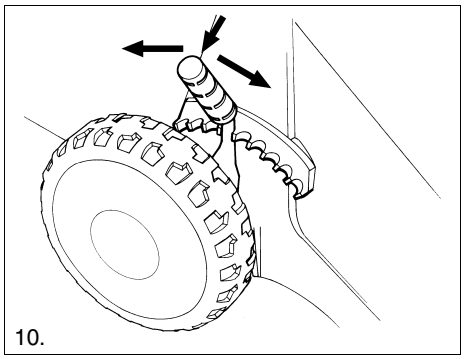
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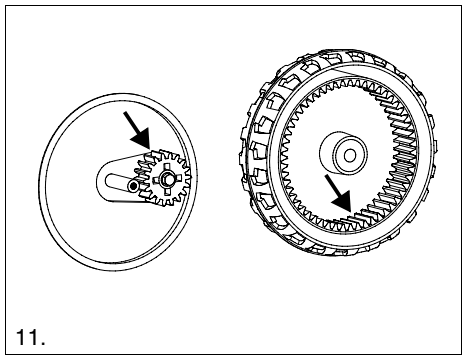
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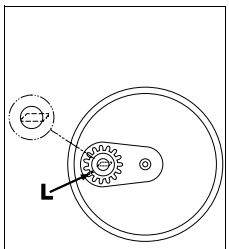

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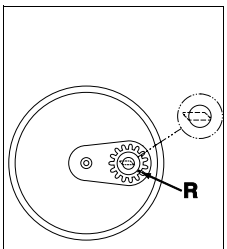

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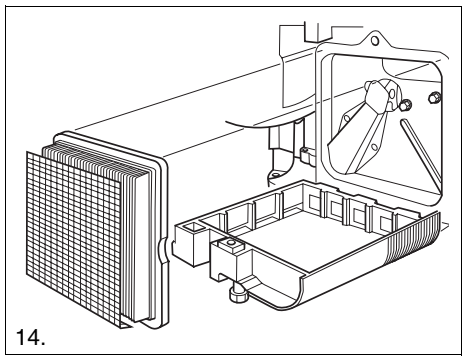
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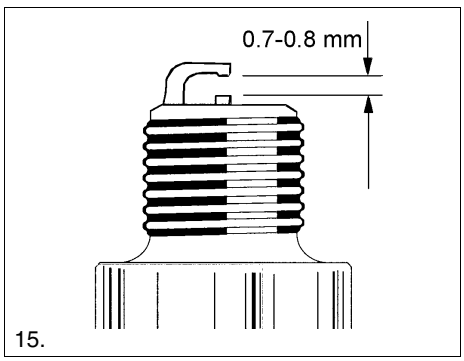

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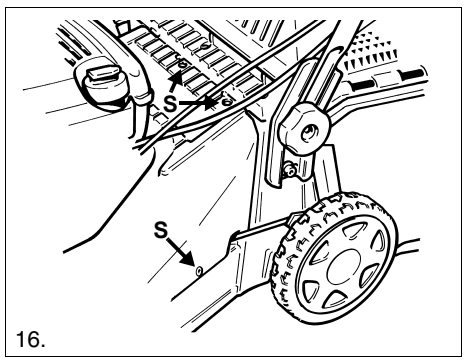

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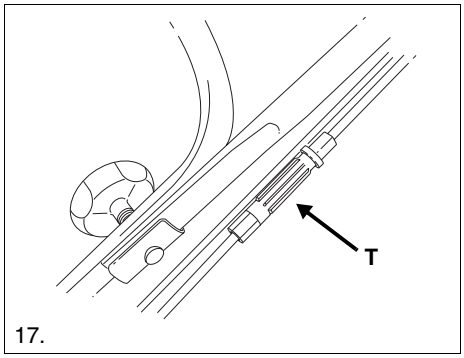

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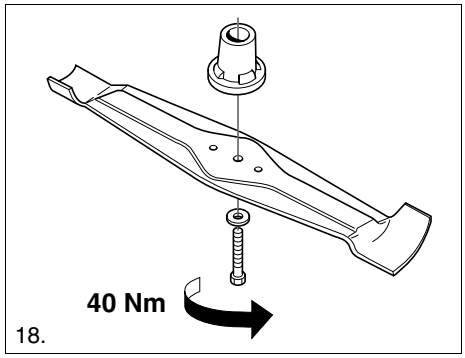

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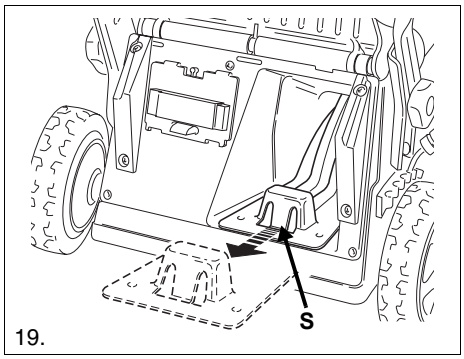

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SAFETY REGULATIONS

SYMBOLS

The following symbols can be found on the machine to remind you of the care and attention that are required during use.

The symbols mean:

Warning! Read the Instruction Book and Safety Manual before using the machine.

Warning! Keep onlookers away. Beware of objects being flung out.

Warning! Keep hands and feet clear of the cutting deck when the machine is running.

Warning! Before starting any repair work, remove the spark plug cable from the spark plug.

GENERAL

This symbol indicates a WARNING. Personal injury and/or damage to property may result if the instructions are not followed carefully.

- Read the instructions carefully. Familiarise yourself with all the controls and correct operation of the machine.
- This machine is only intended for mowing lawns. Any other type of usage, e.g. the cutting of bushes, hedges or climbing plants, is forbidden due to the risk of personal injury.
- Never let children or any person not acquainted with these regulations use the mower. Local regulations may include restrictions concerning the minimum age of the driver (operator).
- Never use the machine if other people, particularly children, or animals are in the vicinity.
- Remember that the driver (operator) will be held responsible for any accidents involving other persons or their property.
- Do not use the machine while under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medicines, or when you are tired or unwell.

PREPARATIONS

- Always wear strong shoes and long trousers when mowing. Do not operate the machine in bare feet or when wearing sandals.
- Always use hearing protectors (earplugs or muffs).
- Check the area to be cut thoroughly and remove any stones, sticks, steel wire or other objects.
- Replace the silencer if defective.
- Before use, always check to make sure that the blades and their fixing components are not worn or damaged. Replace worn or damaged components in complete sets to ensure that the correct balance is maintained.

WARNING - Petrol is highly inflammable:

- Always store petrol in containers specially made for the purpose.
- Only refill with petrol outdoors. Never smoke while refilling.
- Fill with petrol before starting the engine. Never remove the filler cap or refill with petrol while the engine is running or still hot.
- If any petrol is spilt, do not try to start the engine. Move the mower from the place where the petrol was spilt and avoid any form of sparking until the petrol fumes have evaporated.
- Do not forget to replace the petrol filler cap and storage container cap after refuelling.

OPERATION

- Do not run the engine in confined spaces in which dangerous carbon monoxide gas can accumulate.
- Use the machine only in daylight or where there is good illumination.
- Avoid cutting wet grass if possible.
- Ensure that you can walk steadily when working on slopes.
- Never run, always walk.
- When using mowers fitted with wheels, always cut across the slope, never in an up or down direction.

- Great care is required when changing direction on a slope.
- Do not use the machine on slopes of more than 15°.
- Great care is required when reversing or when pulling the mower towards you.
- Switch off the engine if the mower must be tilted when being transported over surfaces other than grass, and also when the mower is being transported to and from the area to be cut.
- Never operate the mower with inadequate protection or without safety equipment, e.g. deflectors and/or the grass collector, in place.
- Do not change the setting of the engine regulator and never rev the engine.
- Start the engine carefully according to the instructions given. Keep your feet well away from the blades.
- Do not tilt the mower when starting the engine.
- Keep hands and feet away from the rotating blade and other rotating parts. If the mower has a grass ejector opening, never put you hand into it.
- Never lift or carry the mower while the engine is running.
- Close the throttle before stopping the engine. If the engine is fitted with a petrol tap, it should be turned off on completion of cutting.

Shut off the engine and detach the spark plug lead:

- When leaving the mower unattended.
- When removing sticks and other rubbish, or when the grass ejector has become clogged.
- During inspection, cleaning, or when servicing the mower.
- When checking for damage and performing any repairs after running over a foreign object, before restarting the mower.
- When checking the machine if it starts to vibrate excessively. (Check immediately.)
- Before refilling with petrol.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

- Check that all nuts and bolts are tightened so that the machine is in a safe operating condition.
- Never keep the machine, with petrol in the tank, inside buildings where fumes can come into contact with naked flames or sparks.
- Allow the engine to cool before putting the machine away.
- To reduce the risk of fire, keep the engine, silencer and fuel tank free from grass, leaves and excess oil.
- If the machine is fitted with a grass collector, it should be checked regularly for signs of wear or damage.
- To ensure safe operation, replace any worn or damaged parts.
- If it becomes necessary to empty the fuel tank, this must be done out of doors.
- Store the machine where children cannot gain access to it.

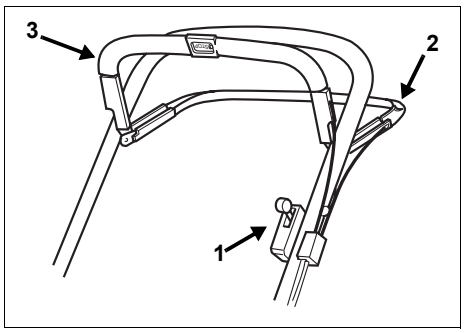
THE ENVIRONMENT

In order to protect the environment, we recommend that the following points should be given special consideration:

- Preferably use environmentally friendly petrol, i.e. alkylate petrol.
- Always use a funnel and/or a petrol can with a level control to avoid spillage when refilling the fuel tank.
- Do not fill the fuel tank completely.
- Do not overfill with engine and/or transmission oil (see ‘Instructions for Use’ for correct quantities).
- When changing the oil, ensure that all the used oil is collected. Avoid spillage. Take the used oil to a recycling unit.
- Do not dispose of the used oil filter in a rubbish bin. Take it to a recycling unit.
- Replace the silencer if faulty. When carrying out repairs, always use original spare parts.

- If the machine was originally equipped with a catalyser which is now faulty, a new one must be fitted when the silencer is replaced.
- Always seek professional help when the carburettor requires adjustment.
- Clean the air filter according to the directions.

INTRODUCTION



1. Throttle control
2. Power drive lever
3. OPC

INSTALLATION

LOOSE PARTS IN THE BOX

2 brackets for the grass collector
4 screws for the brackets
1 Allen key
1 socket wrench
+ Instruction books

HANDLE

1. Fold up the lower part of the handle.
2. Install the upper part of the handle mounts using screws, washers and locking wheels. A lug is installed on the right hand side for the starter handle (fig. 1).
3. Then tighten the locking wheels onto the lower part of the handle. When these have been tightened, the height of the handle can be adjusted by tightening the screws **B** with the wrench provided. (fig. 2)

ENGINE BRAKE CABLE

Secure the engine brake cable to the engine brake (fig. 3). Note that the cable should be installed in the direction of the handle.

CABLE HOLDER

Secure the cables in the cable holders (fig. 4):

D: Start/Stop cable + Clutch cable
E: Throttle cable + Clutch cable

GRASS COLLECTOR

Raise the collector flap and attach the two brackets to the grass collector with the screws provided. The brackets are marked with L and R and should be installed at the corresponding mark on the rear of the mower (fig. 5).

Fit the fabric bag over the steel frame and then snap the bag onto the plastic lid (fig. 6).

Open the flap on the machine and attach the grass collector to the brackets.

NOTE! The lawnmower can be operated without the grass collector. The grass is then left in a line behind the machine.

USING THE MOWER

TRI-CUT

Your new lawnmower combines three different functions in the same machine:

1. MULCHING

The machine comes equipped with a plug to install in the ejector opening (fig. 19). The machine can be used for mulching i.e. the blade finely cuts up the grass during mowing. The grass then falls into the lawn where it is allowed to rot. This provides the lawn with nourishment.

To install the plug, press in the catch (S) and ensure that both pins are pressed firmly into the holes so that the plug snaps in place.

2. COLLECTION

Assemble the grass collector provided (fig. 6). Open the flap, remove the plug and instead hook the collector onto the rear of the machine.

When mowing, the grass is collected in the collector. Empty the grass onto the compost heap or spread it over borders as fertiliser. The machine is also ideal for collecting up leaves in the autumn.

3. REAR DISCHARGE

Use the mower without the collector and mulching plug and the grass is then left in a line behind the machine.

BEFORE STARTING

FILL THE CRANKCASE WITH OIL

The lawnmower is delivered without any oil in the engine crankcase. The crankcase must be filled with oil before the engine is started for the first time.

Remove the oil dipstick (fig. 7). Fill the engine's crankcase with approx. 0.6 litres of good quality oil (service class SE, SF or SG). Use SAE 30 or SAE 10W-30 oil. We recomend that you use Mountfield oil reference MX855, which is available from all B&Q stores and specialist garden machinery dealers.

Slowly fill to 'FULL'. Do not overfill.

CHECK THE OIL LEVEL

Check before using the machine that the oil level is between 'FULL' and 'ADD' on the dipstick.

Remove and wipe off the dipstick (fig. 7). Slide it down completely and tighten it. Unscrew and pull it up again. Read off the oil level. If the oil level is low, fill with oil up to the 'FULL' mark.

FILL UP THE PETROL TANK

Never remove the filler cap or fill with petrol while the engine is running or still warm.

Never completely fill the petrol tank. Allow a little room for the petrol to expand if necessary.

Preferably use environmentally friendly petrol, i.e. alkylate petrol. This type of petrol has a composition that is less harmful to people and nature. It has e.g. no lead additives, no oxygenators (alcohols and ethers), no alkenes and no benzene.

NOTE! If you change to environmentally friendly petrol in an engine previously run on ordinary lead-free petrol (95), the petrol manufacturer's recommendations must be followed carefully.

Ordinary lead-free 95 octane petrol can also be used. You must never use 2-stroke petrol mixed with oil. NOTE! Bear in mind that lead-free petrol is a perishable; do not purchase more petrol than can be used within thirty days.

STARTING THE ENGINE

1. Place the lawnmower on flat, firm ground. Do not start in long grass.
2. Make sure the spark plug cable is connected to the spark plug.
3. When starting a cold engine: Press down the primer fully 6 times (fig. 8).

   When starting a warm engine, the primer does not need to be used. If the engine stops due to a lack of petrol, refill and press down the primer 3 times.
4. Press in the OPC **G** towards the handle. NOTE! The OPC **G** must be kept pressed in to prevent the engine stopping (fig. 9).
5 Grasp the starter handle and start the engine by pulling briskly on the starter cord.

   For ease of starting, press down the handle so that the front wheels lift slightly from the ground. Do not start in thick grass.

Keep hands and feet away from the rotating blade. Never put your hand or foot under the blade casing or in the grass ejector while the engine is running.

STOPPING THE ENGINE

The engine may be very warm immediately after it is shut off. Do not touch the silencer, cylinder or cooling flanges. This can cause burn injuries.

1. Release the OPC **G** (fig. 9) to stop the engine. This loop must not be disengaged (e.g. by setting it in the depressed position against the handle), as it will not be possible to stop the engine.
2. If the lawnmower is left unattended, remove the spark plug cable from the spark plug.

If the OPC ceases to work, stop the engine by removing the spark plug cable from the spark plug. Immediately take the lawn mower to an authorised workshop for repair.

REAR WHEEL DRIVE

Engage the drive by pressing the power drive lever **I** towards the handle. Disengage the drive by releasing the power drive lever **I** (fig. 9).

CUTTING HEIGHT

Shut off the engine before adjusting the cutting height.

Do not set the cutting height so low that the blade come into contact with uneven ground.

The mower has single-lever control for adjusting the cutting height. Pull the lever out, and set the cutting height to one of the nine positions best suited to your lawn (fig. 10).

MAINTENANCE

No servicing may be carried out on the engine or lawnmower without first removing the spark plug cable from the spark plug.

Stop the engine and remove the spark plug cable if the mower is to be lifted, e.g. during transportation.

If the lawnmower needs to be tilted, it must be tilted so that the engine's spark plug faces upwards. Tilt the lawnmower when the fuel tank is empty.

CLEANING

After each use the mower should be cleaned. This is particularly important on the underside of the mower casing. Rinse clean with the garden hose. The mower will then last longer and work better. High-pressure washers should not be used.

If grass has dried on to the mower casing, it can be scraped clean. If necessary, touch up the underside with paint to prevent rust damage.

Clean the silencer and the surrounding area regularly to remove grass, dirt and flammable waste products.

Remove the transmission cover by removing the screws **S** (fig. 16) and clean around the transmission and drive belts with a brush or compressed air once or twice a year.

Once every season, the drive wheels should be cleaned internally. Remove both wheels. Clean the gear wheel and the wheel gear rim of grass and dirt using a brush or compressed air (fig. 11). Replace the wheel.

COOLING SYSTEM

Before each use, the engine's cooling system must be cleaned. Clean the cylinder's cooling flanges and air intake of grass remains, dirt, etc.

LUBRICATING DRIVE SHAFT

Once per season, the wedge on the drive shaft should be greased. Remove the wheel (wheel cap, screw and washer). Then remove the circlip and washer so that the gear wheel can be removed from the shaft. Lubricate the wedge with universal grease.

Reinstall the wedge (the wedge is installed differently on the right and left side, fig. 12-13). Install the gear wheel so that the L faces out on the left side and the R faces out on the right side (machine viewed from the rear).

OIL CHANGE

Replace the oil when the engine is warm and the fuel tank is empty. In order to prevent burns, take care while draining as the oil is hot.

Change the oil the first time after 5 hours of operation, and subsequently every 50 hours of operation or once a season. Remove the dipstick, tilt the mower and let the oil run out into a container. Be careful not to let any oil run on to the grass.

Fill with new oil: Use SAE 30 or SAE 10W-30 oil (Mountfield reference MX855). The crankcase holds approx. 0.6 litre. Fill until the oil reaches the "FULL" mark on the dipstick.

AIR FILTER

A dirty and blocked air filter reduces the engine output and increases engine wear.

Carefully remove the air cleaner so that no dirt falls down into the carburettor (fig. 14). Remove the expanded plastic filter and wash it in liquid detergent and water. Dry the filter. Pour a little oil on the filter and squeeze it in. Reinstall the air cleaner.

Clean the filter every three months or after every 25 hours of use, whichever occurs first. More frequently if the engine is working on dusty ground.

SPARK PLUG

Never remove the spark plug or spark plug cable when checking to see if there is a spark. Always use an approved test instrument.

Clean the spark plug regularly (every 50 hours of run time or once a season). Use a wire brush for cleaning.

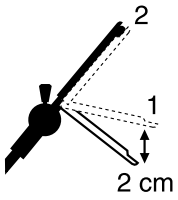
Change the spark plug if the electrodes are excessively burnt or if the plug is damaged. The engine manufacturers recommendations are as follows: (fig. 15):

Champion J19LM (RJ19LM).
Spark gap: 0.7-0.8 mm.

ADJUSTING CLUTCH CABLE

If the drive does not engage when the power drive lever is pressed against the handle, or if the lawnmower feels cumbersome or slow, this may be because the clutch in the transmission is slipping. To rectify this situation, adjust the clutch cable as follows:

1. When the clutch loop is released, it should be possible to push the mower backwards without any resistance. If this is not the case, screw in the nipple **T** until the mower can be pushed (fig. 17).



2. When the clutch loop is pressed in approx. 2 cm (position 1), there should be some resistance when pushing the lawnmower. With the clutch loop fully pressed in (position 2) it should not be possible to push the mower. Unscrew the nipple **T** until this position is achieved.

CHANGING BLADES

Wear protective gloves when changing blades to avoid cutting yourself.

Check the blade system regularly. Check particularly the curved area behind the blade edge for traces of wear. If the blade shows traces of damage it should be replaced. A worn blade creates imbalance and can damage the mower.

Always check the blades after a collision. First disconnect the spark plug cable. If the blade system has been damaged, defective parts should be replaced. Always use genuine spare parts. Replacement blade pack reference MS1186 is available from all B&Q stores and specialist garden machinery dealers.

To replace the blade, slacken the screw (fig. 18). Fit the new blade so that the stamped logo is turned up facing the blade holder (not facing the grass). Reinstall the washer and screw. Tighten the screw properly. Tightening torque 40 Nm.

When replacing the blade, the blade screw should also be replaced.

The guarantee does not cover damage to the blade, blade holder or engine caused by running into obstacles.

When replacing the blade, the blade holder and blade screw, always use genuine spare parts. Non-genuine spare parts can entail a risk of injury or damage, even if they fit the machine.

SHARPENING THE BLADES

Sharpening of the blades must be done by wet method grinding, using a whetstone or a grindstone. It is important to keep the same angle as the original edge.

For safety reasons, the blades should not be sharpened on an emery wheel. A very high temperature could cause the blades to become brittle.

Once the blade has been sharpened, it must then be balanced to avoid vibration damage. Refer tp your local dealer.

STORAGE

WINTER STORAGE

Empty the fuel tank. Start the engine and let it run until it stops. The same petrol must not remain in the tank for more than one month.

Tip up the mower and unscrew the spark plug. Pour a tablespoon of engine oil into the spark plug hole. Pull out the starter handle slowly so that the oil is distributed in the cylinder. Screw in the spark plug.

Thoroughly clean the mower and store it indoors in a dry place.

SERVICE

ACCESSORIES/SPARE PARTS

Always use genuine spare parts and accessories. Non-genuine spare parts and accessories have not been checked and approved by the lawnmower manufacturer. Use of non-genuine spare parts and accessories can lead to the risk of injury, even if they fit the machine. The lawnmower manufacturer does not accept any liability for injuries caused by the use of such parts or accessories.

Genuine spare parts are stocked by authorised service centres and by many dealers.

We recommend that you take the machine to an authorised service station for annual servicing, maintenance and inspection of safety equipment.

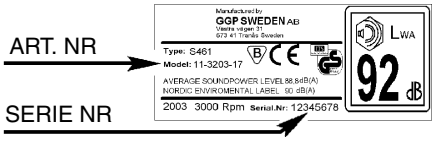
For service and spare parts, please contact the dealer where the machine was purchased.

PRODUCT IDENTITY

The identity of the product is determined by two components:

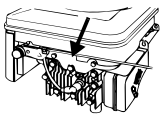
1. Article and serial number of the machine:

Appears on this label fixed to the chassis of the machine.



2. Model, type and serial number of the engine:

Appears on the engine fan housing as shown:



Briggs & Stratton

Use this identification whenever you contact a service workshop or buy replacement parts.

As soon as possible after buying the machine, write the above numbers on the back page of this booklet.

The manufacturer reserves the right to make changes to the product without prior notice.

PURCHASE TERMS

A full guarantee is issued against manufacturing and material defects. The user must carefully follow the instructions given in the enclosed documentation.

Guarantee period
For consumer use: Cutter deck is guaranteed for 10 years. All other, non-consumable, items are guaranteed for two years against defective components and poor workmanship.

For professional use: three months from the purchase date.

Exceptions
For batteries: six months from the purchase date.

The guarantee does not cover damage due to:

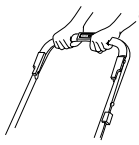
- neglect of the user to acquaint himself with accompanying documentation
- carelessness
- incorrect and non-permitted use or assembly
- the use of non-genuine spare parts
- the use of accessories not supplied or approved by the manufacturer

Neither does the guarantee cover:

- wearing components such as blades, belts, wheels and cables
- normal wear
- engines. These are covered by the appropriate manufacturer's guarantees with separate terms and conditions.

The purchaser is covered by each country's national laws. The rights to which the purchaser is entitled with the support of these laws are not restricted by this guarantee.

EC conformity declaration

1.Category	Lawnmower with petrol engine	8.Make	**Mountfield**
2.Type	**E531**	9.Cutting width	**53 cm**
3.Item no	**12-9686**		
4.Manufacturer	**GGP Sweden AB** **P.O. Box 1006** **SE-573 28 Tranås** **Sweden**	10.Serial number	**See label on chassis**
5.Vibration	 **8,0 m/s^2**	**11. Engine** Make Model	 **Briggs & Stratton** **12H802**
6A.Guaranteed sound power level (L_{WA})	**99 dB(A)**	12.Rotation speed	**3000 rpm**
6B.Measured sound power level	**98 dB(A)**		
7.Notified body	ITS Testing & Certification Ltd Notified Body representative 0359		

This product conforms to
- Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive 89/336/EEC
- Machinery Directive 98/37/EEC with special reference to appendix 1 of the directive regarding essential health and safety requirements in conjunction with manufacturing
- Noise Emission Directive 2000/14/EC

This product has been developed and manufactured in conformance with the following standards:
- EN 836, EN 292-2, EN 1033, EN ISO 3767, EN ISO 14982

Mats Antonsson Managing Director

Issued in Tranås **2003-11-24**

CE

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Mountfield

Manufactured by GGP Sweden AB